

U.S. Application No.:
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3883.023

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Please cancel original Claims 1-5; and Substitute Claims 6-9.

6. A method for knitting socks that is a method of forming the toe section of the sock that covers the toes into a cylindrical shape by continuously knitting from either a sole section or instep section to the other section, wherein when knitting said sole section and instep section, knitting is performed by sequentially decreasing the number of stitches of the small-toe side by a specified number, and after the number of stitches of the large-toe side is decreased by a ratio that is greater than the ratio of decreasing the number of stitches on said small-toe side, the number is increased by the same ratio, and wherein the increase and decrease of the number of stitches on the large-toe side is meticulously repeated at a minimum increase-decrease ratio.

7. The method of knitting socks of claim 6 wherein the increase and decrease of the number of stitches on said large-toe side is performed continuously over a specified length at an integral multiple of the minimum increase-decrease ratio.

8. The method of knitting socks of claim 6 wherein said toe section is formed by dividing it into a first insert section into which the large toe is inserted, and a second insert section into which the other toes are inserted, and when knitting the sole section or instep section in the first insert section and section insert section, the number of stitches is increased or decreased.

9. The method of knitting socks of claim 6 wherein said toe section is formed such that it is divided into five insert sections into which the toes are individually inserted, and when knitting the sole section or instep section in each of these five insert sections, the number of stitches is increased or decreased.